

**From:** [Carr, Brian](#)  
**To:** [Garbarini, Doug](#)  
**Cc:** [Singerman, Joel](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Gowanus  
**Date:** Thursday, July 16, 2015 9:53:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [Flooding.pptx](#)

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Flooding has occurred routinely as long as the canal has been around because the area is so low-lying. See the attached photos, just a few of the dozens we have.

Resiliency of the remedy has been evaluated and will be addressed during the RD. The impact of flooding would not change the siting – the tanks need to be at the end of the pipes, just like the outfalls. The mechanicals need to be protected.

This storm would likely not be fully captured, but we'd get the first flush, and obviously millions of gallons of the CSO event would be reduced. There was also probably a high tide, which would have closed the CSO tide gates, adding to the backups in the streets, which you can see in the video still on this website of the gushing manhole:

<http://www.villagevoice.com/news/the-gowanus-canal-has-flooded-and-its-exactly-as-gross-as-youre-imagining-7379746>

My main interest is finding the actual rain measurement for yesterday at the Canal, said to be 1.5 inches, since the City's model relies on JFK readings, which vary widely from the other gauges.

Here's yesterday's NYC advisory:

This file written at 7/15/2015 7:00 AM

Rainfall at three NOAA rain gauges over the past 24 hours in inches:

JFK Airport: 0.13

LaGuardia Airport: 0.95

Central Park: 0.42

List of Advisories

GOWANUS CANAL: CSO Advisory until 7/15/2015 3:00 PM

NEWTOWN CREEK: CSO Advisory until 7/16/2015 3:00 AM

WESTCHESTER CREEK: CSO Advisory until 7/15/2015 3:00 PM

Current CSO advisories: 3

A CSO Waterbody Advisory has been issued. For more info on affected waterbodies, call 311 or go to <http://on.nyc.gov/JJmJoK>

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**From:** Garbarini, Doug  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 16, 2015 8:12 AM  
**To:** Carr, Brian  
**Cc:** Singerman, Joel  
**Subject:** FW: Gowanus

Brian

Were you in the loop on any discussions regarding the magnitude of yesterday's flood event? I would think that a storm event that caused this sort of flooding would have been one of the events not fully captured by our proposed tanks. Certainly don't think it would impact where we actually put our tanks.

Joel, if Brian doesn't have a source of info would Hill have it or could we call the City PM to see what he knows?

Thanks

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**From:** Garbarini, Doug  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 16, 2015 8:07 AM  
**To:** Carpenter, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: Gowanus

Will see if Brian has any additional info on the flood event. I am not sure of the extent of flooding, but doubt it would cause any change in the potential locations of tanks.

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**From:** Carpenter, Angela  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 10:09 PM  
**To:** Garbarini, Doug  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gowanus

Can you see what info there is on today's flooding. Judith and Catherine are interested in how these type of events may factor into the tank discussion.

Thanks

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Enck, Judith" <[Enck.Judith@epa.gov](mailto:Enck.Judith@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** July 15, 2015 at 21:01:44 EDT  
**To:** "McCabe, Catherine" <[McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Carpenter, Angela" <[Carpenter.Angela@epa.gov](mailto:Carpenter.Angela@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Gowanus

I have not heard this. As we discuss tank location we should add this to the discussion. I visited gowanus neighborhoods the day after sandy when the canal went over its banks and flooded basements. A major problem

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 15, 2015, at 8:56 PM, McCabe, Catherine

<[McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov)> wrote:

I just saw the news reports that the Gowanus Canal overflowed during a flash flood today. Surprising that we didn't hear about it or get any calls. Wondering whether this may have any bearing on our debate about where the storage tanks should go

Sent from my iPhone